



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021

No. 52

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, 2021, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 19, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

O God, in You do we place our trust; in You do we find our refuge. You are our Lord; apart from You there is nothing that we can do or claim that can truly be called good.

Forgive us when we part ways with You and pursue other gods; the gods of power, position, possession; when we taste on our lips the gods of ego, ease, and expertise.

Remind us that to worship these things will only lead to suffering and sadness. For You alone are sufficient, the source of our serenity. You have already provided all that we need and are so privileged to enjoy.

So shall we praise You, the Lord, who gives us counsel, who provides instruction even in the darkest hours of our days.

May we keep our eyes always on You. With You alongside us, our hearts will be glad and our steps sure.

Make Yourself known to us on the paths we trod. Fill us with the joy of Your presence.

We offer this prayer in the strength of Your name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCNERNEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

INCITING POLITICAL VIOLENCE

(Mr. GOMEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, I believe some of my Republican colleagues, and one in particular, wish harm upon this legislative body. I am not saying this for shock value; it is the conclusion I drew after a Member of Congress advocated violence against our peers, the Speaker, and our government.

It is what I believed after this Chamber was turned into a crime scene just 10 weeks ago. It is how many of us felt, sheltering in this room, as the Capitol was breached.

Some Members called their loved ones to say good-bye. Others prayed to their God. And I asked myself if this would be the day our democracy died.

I take no joy in introducing this resolution, but any Member who incites political violence and threatens our lives must be expelled, and I will do everything I can in my power to protect our democracy and keep all of my colleagues safe.

RECOGNIZING THE LINEMEN AND LINEWOMEN OF TEXAS

(Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the resilient linemen of Texas-25 for their outstanding work to successfully provide power to Texas homes, businesses, and communities during the catastrophic winter storms.

I and many others send our deep gratitude to the workers of the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Austin Energy, and other electric providers in Texas-25 who worked tirelessly through a brutal winter storm to meet the needs of Texans and across the State.

They put their lives in danger, working around the clock in subzero temperatures and in harsh conditions to restore critical power as quickly as possible.

Due to their fortitude and grit, lives were saved, animals were saved, and communities were restored and on track to recovery.

You are our heroes, and on behalf of the 25th Congressional District of Texas, we simply say thank you. In God we trust.

VIOLENCE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS IS UN-AMERICAN

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on the horrific anti-Asian American sentiment that has been brewing in our country.

Like all of you, I was heartbroken by this week's shooting in Georgia. This violent act of hate has no place in our country. While this tragedy deserves all our outrage and attention, it is important to remember that this was not an isolated incident.

COVID-19 has worsened the racism and xenophobia our AAPI brothers and sisters face. Many elected officials have used the pandemic to fan the flames of hate, and now they refuse to accept the consequences of their actions.

My district is home to over 10,000 Asian Americans. They make our community whole, and they do not deserve to live in fear because of hateful rhetoric that has spread across America.

As President Biden has said, violence against Asian Americans is un-American, and it must stop.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER BROWNAWELL

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, today, we take a moment to remember the life and service of Sergeant Major Christopher Brownawell, a decorated American soldier who died unexpectedly last week.

Chris' life was defined by his service, both in and out of uniform. For 24 years, Chris served honorably in the United States Army, deploying to Kosovo, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait.

Outside of the military, Chris kept our community safe as a corrections officer at SCI Coal Township.

Those who knew Chris remember him as the quintessential infantryman and a purpose-driven leader who went out of his way to develop and mentor other

soldiers. Chris set the standard for other soldiers and, undoubtedly, had a profound impact on so many during his years of service.

Every freedom we have in this Nation was paid for by soldiers like Chris. Chris is a hero, and his legacy of service to our community, State, and country will live on with his family and friends and our community.

HATE CRIMES AGAINST ASIANS MUST STOP

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, eight lives were lost in Georgia this week when a gunman targeted three Asian-owned businesses. Six of these victims were Asian-American women.

I am heartbroken for all these lost souls, and I am heartbroken because this is just one of the latest in a string of attacks that have created fear throughout the Asian-American community.

Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, there have been over 3,800 reported anti-Asian hate crimes and incidents. What started off as dirty looks and verbal assault has escalated into physical attacks that have become increasingly deadly.

There was Vicha Ratanapakdee, an 84-year old man who died after being assaulted outside of his home, and Noel Quintana, whose face was slashed from ear to ear on a New York subway.

These attacks have been almost a daily tragedy, and they must stop. We must stand united against xenophobia and slurs like "China virus" and "Kung flu," which we know put lives at risk, and we must work together to stop Asian hate.

RECOGNIZING KIDNEY CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. HAGEDORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, March is Kidney Cancer Awareness Month, and frankly, every month is cancer awareness month.

Two years ago, I was diagnosed with stage IV kidney cancer, and ever since, I have received treatment and great care from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Two months ago, they removed my kidney, and I am very grateful to say that, just this week, my doctor said "no cancer detected" at this time.

But here is the point about this: My cancer was found through a routine physical. I had no symptoms.

In this past year, millions of Americans have, for whatever reason, coronavirus or otherwise, postponed or canceled their doctor's visits and aren't getting the cancer screenings they have in the past.

I encourage everyone to make sure you get out there, see your doctor reg-

ularly, get looked into, because the earliest possible detection of serious illness can literally save your life. I am someone who can attest to that.

To my fellow cancer survivors, hang in there. Keep fighting because cures are coming along every day. And, Mr. Speaker, it is uncanny how family, friends, medical professionals, total strangers, they rally around us and help us fight.

HONORING DR. I.M. SINGER

(Mr. MCNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Dr. I.M. Singer, one of America's most influential mathematicians.

The son of Polish-Jewish immigrants, Dr. Singer had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in physics in just 2½ years before joining the United States military during World War II.

Upon returning, Dr. Singer earned a doctorate degree in mathematics from the University of Chicago. Later, he chaired committees at the United States National Academy of Sciences, was a member of the White House Science Council, and cofounded the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley.

Dr. Singer's most prominent contribution was the Atiyah-Singer index theorem, which created a link between mathematical analysis and topology and, ultimately, led to a new field of mathematics. For his work, Dr. Singer received the most prestigious award in mathematics, the Abel Prize.

As a fellow mathematician, I deeply admire Dr. Singer's contributions to theoretical physics and mathematics, which have revolutionized the way we understand the universe.

HONORING BURKE WALL

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Burke Wall, who passed away on March 1, 2021, at the age of 76.

Burke was a lifelong Georgian who graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in dairy production. Burke was an avid UGA football fan and an active sportsman.

Burke was also an enthusiastic deep-sea fisherman aboard his boat called Trashman, and his talents were recognized in numerous tournaments along the East Coast.

In 2019, Burke won the Edisto Beach South Carolina Governor's Cup Tournament and impressively put a 549-pound blue marlin on the dock at the Mid-Atlantic 500 the same year, earning him second place.